

what compressed between the large bullæ, much higher than broad; the molar series not converging appreciably posteriorly; posterior cusp of  $m_3$  large, occupying more than a third part of the surface of the whole tooth.

I have great pleasure in associating the name of the collector with this very interesting new form.

(11) *Pectinator Spekei*, Blyth.

a. Lehello, 10th June.

(12) *Lepus somalensis*, Heugl., or *L. berberanus*, Heugl.

a. Lehello, 12th June.

Perhaps the specimen in the present collection agrees best with the description attached to the latter name; but as I have not had an opportunity of seeing the types, I am unable to say if they are really distinct species.

The upper incisors have the grooves entirely filled with cement level with the surface.

XL.—*Descriptions of Three new Rodents from Africa.*

By W. E. DE WINTON.

*Anomalurus Jacksoni*, sp. n.

Closely resembling *A. cinereus* in size and colour, but distinguished by having a black muzzle, a black ring round the eyes, and a large black spot behind the ear (all these characters are found in the West-African brightly coloured species *A. erythronotus*); a still more interesting outward distinction is the greater extension of the soft fur on the upperside of the wings, the rigid adpressed hairs being confined to a small space barely 2 inches long from the point of the expanding process backwards; there is not so much white on the underside of the neck and no white band from ear to ear, and the undersides of the fore and hind legs are dusky, and not clear white as in *A. cinereus*.

Type (♂), Ntebe, Uganda, 6th Oct., 1895. Collected by Mr. F. J. Jackson, H.M. Acting Commissioner in Uganda.

Measurements (taken from the dried skin):—

Head and body (c.) 320 millim.; tail (c.) 200; hind foot (c.) 53; ear (c.) 32.

Skull: greatest length 58; greatest breadth 38.5; greatest length of nasals (diagonally of one bone) 15.5; narrowest

across both bones 5·5; across interorbital space at suture of lacrymals and frontals 18; intertemporal constriction 14·6; infraorbital foramen, height 6·5, breadth 3·7, basal length 51; molar series 13; diastema 12; mandible, length (bone only), back of incisors to condyle 33·5, to angle 35, to coronoid 29; height, standing on table, perpendicularly to coronoid 19, to condyle 17·1.

Compared with the skull of *A. cinereus* (measurements of which, so far as it is possible, are given below), the maxillary processes of the zygomata do not spring out so abruptly, the supraorbital ledges slightly and gradually narrow posteriorly, with less distinct processes in the temporal portion; the nasals are rather longer; the posterior portions of the nasals, premaxillary and maxillary processes being subequal in breadth and evenly rounded off, the frontal suture forms a row of even scallops; the lacrymal bones are rather longer on the frontal surface, the infraorbital foramina are smaller, the molars broader and more rounded, and the incisive foramina smaller. The auditory bullæ are rather large.

*A. cinereus*, Thos.—Very few measurements are possible, the skull being very imperfect. Length of nasals 13 millim.; narrowest breadth 5·7; interorbital breadth 16·5; intertemporal constriction 15; infraorbital foramen 6·7 × 4·2; molar series 13; diastema 12; mandible, inner side of back of incisors to condyle 33, to coronoid 26, to angle 33·5.

Nasals short; supraorbital ledges not converging from the front, ending posteriorly in well-marked processes; zygomata springing out very abruptly in front; the nasals, which are blunt, barely reach back as far as do the processes of the premaxillæ, and are not quite so broad as these processes, so that the frontal suture has not the scalloped appearance which is so striking a feature in *A. Jacksoni*.

As some of the outward characters of this new *Anomalurus* resemble *A. erythronotus*, it would be well to mention the most striking differences between the skulls. The new form differs in the maxillary portion of the zygomata being stronger and the infraorbital foramina smaller; in the longer and narrower processes of the premaxillæ, which in *A. erythronotus* stop considerably short of the back of the nasals; in the less-developed processes terminating the frontal ledges; the auditory bullæ are considerably larger and rounder; the molar series longer and the teeth much heavier. The single specimen has no free pterygoid processes, the bones show no sign of fracture, being smoothly rounded off. In the

mandible the distance between the coronoid and condyle is shorter, and the molars much broader and heavier.

*Gerbillus (Tatera) Phillipisi*, sp. n.

Colour of the upper parts fawn; most of the hairs on the top of the head and on the back are tipped with dusky; scarcely any sign of eye- or ear-patches; the fur grey at the base, except on the eyebrows and cheeks; all the underparts to the base of the fur, with the feet and hands, pure white; the tail is bicoloured, much like the back above, white beneath; the feet and hands are not very thickly covered with hair, and the tail has only short hair upon it, about as in *G. afer*. The pads of the fore feet (in the dry skin) are darker than the soles generally, and the soles and pads of the hind feet are dusky brown or almost soot-coloured. The soles of the hind feet are reticulated in the distal and padded portions, smooth in the metatarsal. In outward appearance, especially in colour, more nearly resembling the true Gerbils than any known species of the group to which it belongs.

Type in the British Museum (no. 97. 12. 3. 7), "Hanka Dadi, Somali, 8th March, 1897, trapped on sandy bank." Collected and presented by Mr. E. Lort-Phillips.

Measurements (taken in the flesh):—

Head and body 120 millim.; tail 163; hind foot 32; ear 20.

Skull: greatest length 38·5; greatest breadth 20·1; across the front of the zygomata 14·6; nasals, length 16, interparietal bone 4·5 × 9·3, basal length 32; incisive foramina 8; palatal foramina 2·7; upper molar series 6; outside  $\frac{ms.1}{ms.3}$  7·7, outside  $\frac{ms.3}{ms.1}$  7·1; mandible length (bone only) to condyle 20, to coronoid 16, to angle 20·3; height, standing on table, perpendicularly to coronoid 9·7, to condyle 9·9.

The skull resembles those of its allies in general shape; the nasal bones are, however, considerably longer in proportion—in fact, the actual length of these bones is only equalled in *G. murinus*, which is a much larger animal; the auditory bullæ are rather more rounded than in either *G. afer* or *G. leucogaster*. The incisors are narrow, as are also the molars; the last molar is trefoil-shaped.

*Georychus Lugardi*, sp. n.

Colour seal-brown, with a small white spot on the crown of the head. The colour is not unlike that of *G. Lechei* from

Monbuttu, but rather browner, and the large white blaze distinguishes that larger species. The skull most nearly resembles *G. Bocagei* from Angola in having a very broad facial portion and in the nasals ending in a point level with the back of the intermaxillary processes; the zygomata are, however, much lighter, the inner surface is perpendicular and not turned upwards, and the maxillary processes do not spring out so abruptly; the infraorbital foramina are very small, not more than 1 millim. high and  $\frac{1}{2}$  millim. broad; the teeth are large in proportion; the auditory bullæ rather fuller than in most of its allies. In the mandible the coronoid processes are very much shorter and further from the condyle; the intermediate space is level, being in this respect more like *G. Darlingi* from the Salisbury Plateau of Mashunaland.

The type (no 97. 12. 5. 2 in the British Museum) was collected and presented by Major F. D. Lugard, D.S.O., C.B., who obtained it in the Kalahari Desert between Palapye and Ngami.

Measurements (taken from the dried skin):—

Head and body (c.) 130 millim.; tail 13; hind foot 25.

Skull: greatest length 34; breadth of brain-case 14·6; nasals  $12 \times 3\cdot2$ ; breadth of facial portion 8·3; intertemporal constriction 8; basal length 30; molar series 7·5; mandible, back of incisors to back of condyle 22·5, to coronoid 14·5.

Major Lugard also brought home a Galago (*Galago maholi*) taken at Palla, Bechuanaland Protectorate, which adds to our knowledge of the range of this species.

XLI.—*On the Habitat of the Siluroid Fish Anoplopterus platychir, Gthr.* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

AMONG some fishes collected in Northern Nyassaland, between Kondowe and Karonga, by Mr. A. Whyte, and presented to the British Museum by Sir H. H. Johnston, I was rather surprised to find two specimens of a catfish of the genus *Anoplopterus*, Pfeffer, which, instead of being referable to the recently described East-African *A. uranoscopus*, Pfeffer, agreed in all respects, except their larger size (75–80 millim.), with Günther's *A. platychir*. The fish was originally described, from Sierra Leone specimens, as a *Pimelodus*, from which genus *Anoplopterus* differs in the absence of an ocular rim and of any trace of ossification in the first dorsal ray. Almost at the same time the fish reached me a paper